

**ADDENDUM TO SCHEDULING ORDER**

Issue having been joined, it is hereby **ORDERED**:

1. Counsel residing outside the State of Texas shall designate local counsel in writing, giving the street address, telephone number and mailing address. The designation shall be filed with the Clerk of the Court in this proceeding, and a copy shall be sent to all other counsel of record in this proceeding. This provision may be waived by the Court upon motion of counsel and service upon other parties.
2. **ALL DISCOVERY MUST BE COMMENCED AND COMPLETED BY THE DISCOVERY DEADLINE PROVIDED IN THIS ORDER.**
  - a. Designation of experts shall be an issue at any pretrial conference.
  - b. Counsel are encouraged to resolve discovery disputes by agreement. Motions to compel, motions for protective orders and similar motions, while not prohibited, may result in sanctions being imposed on the losing party or both parties as provided in Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7037 & 9011 or 28 U.S.C. section 1927, if a hearing is required thereon.
  - c. If applicable, parties may file dispositive motions under Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7012 & 7056 and Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b) & 56. Such motions, if filed, must be filed by the deadline for dispositive motions in this Order. Responses to motions under FRBP 12 and 56 must be filed within 20 days after the Motion is filed. **ALL OTHER MOTIONS IN THIS ADVERSARY PROCEEDING, UNLESS UNOPPOSED, REQUIRE THE FILING OF A WRITTEN RESPONSE WITHIN 10 DAYS, OR THE MOTION MAY BE GRANTED WITHOUT A HEARING.**
  - d. All discovery shall be commenced at a time which allows for the full response time provided by applicable rules on or before the discovery deadline.

E.g., if the discovery deadline is July 15, interrogatories must be actually delivered on or before June 15 in order to allow thirty days for answers. If the interrogatories are mailed, then they must be mailed on or before June 12, pursuant to FED. R. BANKR. P. 9006(f), to allow three additional days for service by mail.
  - e. The Court may, upon motion and for cause shown, extend, reduce, or otherwise modify the deadlines set out in the Scheduling Order. Mere

agreement of the parties to such extensions or modifications is not of itself sufficient cause.

3. An original and one copy of the Pre-Trial Order must be filed on or before the Pre-Trial Order deadline provided in this Order. If the Pre-Trial Order is not timely filed, a default judgment may be rendered or the proceeding may be dismissed for want of prosecution. Counsel may agree on a single Pre-Trial Order; however, if counsel cannot agree, counsel must file separate proposed Pre-Trial Orders on or before the deadline. The proposed Pre-Trial Order shall contain the following:
  - a. A short and concise statement of the nature of the dispute.
  - b. A statement as to jurisdiction, including whether the matter is core or non-core, and if non-core, whether the parties consent to the entry of a final order by the bankruptcy judge.
  - c. A summary of the agreed facts.
  - d. A summary of the agreed applicable law.
  - e. A summary of the disputed factual issues.
  - f. A summary of the disputed legal issues. Such summary shall include a discussion of laws involved by specific reference to code provisions, state or federal statutes and/or regulations, applicable rules of procedure and conflict questions, if any. (Copies of regulations must be attached.)
  - g. A list of witnesses who may be called, accompanied by a short and concise statement of their proposed testimony.
  - h. A numbered list of exhibits upon which the parties intend to rely at trial.
  - i. An estimate of the length of time required to hear the complete trial on the merits.
  - j. A certificate that a conference of counsel has been held regarding settlement, stipulations of agreed facts, and simplification of the issues.
4. Counsel and unrepresented parties must confer prior to the date the Pre-Trial Order is required to be filed, to fully explore the possibility of settlement, to stipulate to matters not in dispute and to simplify the issues. The Pre-Trial Order shall contain a certificate to the effect that the conference of counsel has been held. Counsel must also confer in an effort to determine whether the

original time estimate for trial is correct or should be revised. If the parties wish to have a pre-trial conference with the Court, a pre-trial conference should be requested as early as possible, but at least 60 days prior to the trial. No pre-trial conference will be scheduled with the Court unless absolutely necessary, except as follows:

**IF COUNSEL'S ESTIMATE OF TRIAL TIME IS 5 HOURS OR MORE, A PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE MUST BE REQUESTED. IT WILL BE THE PARTIES' BURDEN TO MAKE WRITTEN REQUEST FOR THE PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE IN SUCH INSTANCE, WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THIS ORDER. DESIGNATION OF EXPERTS SHALL BE AN ISSUE AT ANY PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE.**

**IF A JURY DEMAND IS FILED BY ANY PARTY TO THE PROCEEDING, THAT PARTY MUST FILE A WRITTEN REQUEST ( WITH SERVICE UPON ALL OTHER PARTIES) FOR A PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE FILING OF THE JURY DEMAND, OR WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS ORDER, WHICHEVER IS LATER, OR THE JURY DEMAND WILL BE WAIVED. THIS WRITTEN REQUEST FOR PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A BRIEF ADDRESSING THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:**

- (1) Whether the matter or matters are core or non-core proceedings;
  - (2) Whether the party consents to the conduct of a jury trial by the bankruptcy judge or, if not, whether the party has filed a motion to withdraw the reference;
  - (3) Whether the party is entitled to a jury trial under applicable law.
5. Any legal briefs to be considered by the Court at the trial of this proceeding must be submitted at the same time and in the same manner as the Pre-Trial Order and must be separately bound.
  6. Trial exhibits (other than rebuttal, demonstrative and physical exhibits) shall be bound at the side, in book form, separated by tabbed dividers with a cover sheet listing the exhibits. Each exhibit shall bear a standard exhibit label on the bottom of the first page of the exhibit identified.: Exhibits shall be exchanged not later than 5 calendar days prior to docket call. *See* Bankruptcy Local Rule 7016(g)(3).
  7. **DOCKET CALL IS SET ON THE DOCKET CALL DATE PROVIDED IN THE SCHEDULING ORDER.**

The only matters to be considered by the Court at docket call are as follows:

- a. Date, time and place of trial following docket call.

- b. Properly and timely-filed motions for continuance or for default judgment.
- c. Motions not previously ruled on under FED. R. CIV. P. 12 and FED. R. BANKR. P. 7012.
- d. Settlement announcements.

**FAILURE TO ATTEND DOCKET CALL MAY RESULT IN DISMISSAL OR RENDITION OF FINAL JUDGMENT. YOU MAY, HOWEVER, AUTHORIZE ANY MEMBER OF THE BAR OF THIS COURT, INCLUDING OPPOSING COUNSEL, TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE ON YOUR BEHALF AT DOCKET CALL, IF THERE ARE NO CONTESTED MOTIONS FOR CONTINUANCE, MOTIONS FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT OR MOTIONS UNDER FED. R. CIV. P. 12 AND FED. R. BANKR. P. 7012.**